Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, UNGA, FR

SUBJECT: UNGA: RESOLUTION ON MAYOTTE

REF: USUN 4235

- 1. DEBATE CONCLUDED AND VOTE TAKEN ON GA ITEM 125, QUESTION OF MAYOTTE NOVEMBER 1. OUTCOME OF VOTE WAS 121-0-17(US). FRANCE DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN VOTE. THOSE ABSTAINING WITH US WERE CANADA, AUSTRALIA, NEW ZEALAND, ISRAEL, PORTUGAL, SPAIN, GREECE AND EC-9. RESOLUTION IN QUESTION (REFTEL) CO-SPONSORED BY 69 STATES INCLUDING ALL OAU MEMBERS EXCEPT FOR UNEXPLAINED ABSENCE OF SIERRA LEONE.
- 2. DEBATE PRIOR TO VOTE INCLUDED STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF EQUATORIAL GUINEA, IVORY COAST, INDIA, ALGERIA, CONGO, MOROCCO, CHINA, SYRIA, SRI LANKA, (WHO INTRODUCED RESOLUTION AS CHAIRMAN OF NON-ALIGNED), PDRY, KUWAIT ARGENTINA, TANZANIA, MOZAMBIQUE, TURKEY AND KENYA. DEBATE MAINTAINED MODERATE TONE THROUGHOUT AND CONTAINED STANDARD OBJECTIONS TO FRENCH RECORD AND POSITION.

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EM PRIOR TO VOTE, FRANCE AND CUBA GAVE EXPLANATIONS OF VOTE. GOF REP NOTED FRANCE ONLY WANTED FAIR SOLUTION TO QUESTION OF MAYOTTE AND, AT APPROPRIATE TIME, PEOPLE OF MAYOTTE WOULD HAVE FREE CHOICE. FRANCE BELIEVED GOVERNMENT AND PEOPLE OF COMOROS SHOULD PERSUADE MAYOTTE TO REJOIN COMOROS. RESOLUTION BEFORE ASSEMBLY WAS UNACCEPTABLE TO GOF SINCE IT CONSTITUTED INTERFERENCE IN FRANCE'S

INTERNAL AFFIARS, PRESCRIBED HOW DISCUSSIONS SHOULD TAKE PLACE AND DENIED RIGHT OF SELF DETERMINATION. FOR THOSE REASONS, FRANCE WOULD NOT PARTICIPATE IN VOTE. CUBAN STATEMENT WAS NO MORE THAN STANDARD SUPPORT FOR RESOLUTION.

4. FOLLOWING VOTE, NETHERLANDS AND JAPAN EXPLAINED THEIR VOTES. NETHERLANDS REP STATED ABSTENTION BASED ON RESOLUTIONS LACK OF BALANCE AND FAILURE TO REFLECT EFFORTS OF GOF TO NEGOTIATE SOLUTION. ABSTENTION DID NOT, HOWEVER, AFFECT NETHERLANDS OVERALL VIEW ON DECOLONIZATION AND INDEPENDENCE BASED ON NATURAL FRONTIERS. JAPANESE EXPLANATION OF AFFIRMATIVE VOTE SIMPLY VOTED BOTH MODERATION OF RESOLUTION AND ITS CALL FOR PEACEFUL DIALOGUE BETWEEN PARTIES.

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